

Draft CCN Notes 7-16-2013

Attendees: Denise Jordan Izaguirre, ATSDR; Roberta Vogel-Leutung, ENSV; Tegan Vaughn, POIS; Jennifer Ousley, WWPDP; Alex Owutaka, WWPDP; Shelley Brodie, SUPR; Monica Espinosa, POIS; Mary Ellen Maxwell, OPA; Wendy Lubbe, POIS; Kerry Herndon, WWPDP; David Doyle, POIS; Debbie Kring, OPA; Kathleen Fenton, OPA; Jennifer Morris, SUPR; Crystal McIntyre, TOPE; Gayle Hubert, AWMD; Karim Dawani, ECO/EJ; Steve Schaff, WWPDP; Craig Bernstein, AWMD

Alex O. – Waste Water/Drinking Water- EPA has developed a national general permit for large marine vessels over 79 feet long and is developing general permits and regulations for military vessels, smaller vessels, fishing boats, and recreational boats. Missouri is top 5 in country.

Jennifer M. – Brownfields

- There is a big check ceremony for the KS-MO Coalition this week.
- There's still the digital divide issue re: community engagement and paying for wireless access.
- July 30th, Omaha; August 27th, Iowa: BF Competition Discussions
- Head of Senate Committee on Environmental Public works to talk about B.F. project on Wednesday, July 24th.
- Technical Assistance to BF (TAB) out of K-State is hosting a multi state "BF 101" this week in Miami, OK.

Kerry H. – KCMO Green Infrastructure Project update: The Marlboro Neighborhood had a project funded by EPA's Office of Research & Development(ORD) that was also part of the city's CSO consent decree.

- ORD is wrapping up data collections and will brief the city on its findings. Rain gardens were made in neighborhood yards to measure the quantity of water saved from run off. Sidewalks were also made into porous surfaces to reduce run off. But the problem was lack of water last year and changing contractors.
- ORD is wrapping data collection and their water quality expert will brief the city on findings.
- Nationwide, EPA is decreasing inflow to sewers by 80% and looking at water quality as it exits rain gardens or other green infrastructure tools.

David D. – Smart Growth/Sustainable Communities work

- Joplin Green Complete Streets - FEMA & EPA are bringing in design experts to focus on 20th Street. RA Karl Brooks did the welcome and there were two public events.
- The design planning is new and a little radical for them; the draft plan will be ready in late August and an audit of zoning codes and wrap up in September.
- Kansas City KS- There is the beginning signs of reuse for the former landfill site know as John Garland Park. The city's Public works director contacted us, and they found the money to begin to implement the design plan that was done a couple years ago.
 - They've put in parking and a walking path
 - They have some funds from land foreclosures.
 - Once the fence is lowered and other things are done to prepare the site, they'll invite us to an opening event.

Crystal M. – Lead- There are two events in August. We are getting in touch with Vocational/technical schools through help from Jennifer Morris in Brownfields, and a few are interested.

- The program requires contractors be trained and certified by EPA.

- There are 37 trainers in the Region

Kathleen Fenton – Green Schools

- The Healthy Schools kit may have overlap with the Vo-tech schools. It covers 15 different topics and there are 64 documents, 101 write ups/fact sheets, and links to R7 and HQ contacts that will be on the web soon.
- No CDs are being mailed. Kathy Colon is working on a database of all superintendents
- So information could be morphed into generic environmental health outreach
- SEE employee Harry Diesel also has grant funding so he can travel along with Dan Tuggle (the schools IPM (Integrated Pest Management) contact to work with tribal, rural or EJ schools.
- Regarding the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program though it wasn't funded in 2012, Wendy and Kathleen are on a workgroup that's creating white papers highlighting various communities' work to identify their environmental priorities and reduce environmental health risks to be more sustainable and build community capacity to address the risks/issues.

Craig B. – Energy Star (ES)

- Though ES is on the disinvestment list there is a new Portfolio Manager debuting soon and is very user friendly for graphing and mapping. There are also new press releases on the commercial and industrial internet pages. They've put together a list of target markets like schools and are talking about prioritizing programs to the top six programs. This is from 500 pieces of technical information so is a great redesign.

Roberta V-L – ENSV/Urban Waters

- The national Community Involvement Conference is next week in Boston but they will live stream some of the key notes and panels.
- The Middle Blue River Federal partnership in KCMO is gearing up and they have a good steering committee and work with Brush Creek and in the Municipal Farms (a large Brownfield) area of 400 acres and includes an old correctional facility. They're doing a greenway study and look at synergies and nontraditional partners including the park service and conservation department.

Tegan – POIS

- The Communities Information Digest is coming out every three weeks now and she's updating the Region 7 Community Resources Guide. Send me any updates for the digest (webinars, news, conferences, outreach, etc...).

Jennifer O. – Water – Jennifer and Mandy are working with Headquarters on another grant proposal.

Presentation from Debbie Kring – Office of Public Affairs, Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) and elected public official as City Council member in Mission, KS

- Debbie has 30 years of government experience and will be retiring in December. She worked first in Human Resources (8 years) then Superfund (10 years) and then the remaining time as a CIC in Public Affairs. She's also participates in mayoral/city and county activities.
- She's worked on 16 SUPR sites. The two she'd like to highlight are 1) Omaha NE – which is the largest residential lead site in the U.S. and is now entering the first phase of deletion on the SUPR NPL (National Priority List). She mentioned how the Community Advisory Group (CAG) that formed in relation to the SUPR site in Omaha yielded several community advocates and elected officials.
- The 2nd site is the Westlake landfill site in Bridgeton, MO. Radioactive material originated as part of the Manhattan Project at the Mallinckrodt Chemical Works plant in downtown St. Louis. In 2008 there was a Record of Decision (ROD) that stated it would be capped and then monitoring would be done but this wasn't accepted by most of the community. HQ got involved and a

Supplemental Feasibility Study was done, along with quarterly water monitoring.

- This past January there was a meeting and 400+ people attended. I work with the media and all the congressional. OPA, SUPR and ENSV Senior Staff members are involved as there are health concerns and a variety of issues. This past June 756 people attended a meeting, which is a lot for a public meeting. They are forming a Community Advisory Group (CAG). There have been many confrontations.
- The key is to look for common thresholds. Many have a family or may be a homeowner and are angry and scared due to fires at the landfill and the unknown.
- Listen & don't preach.
- The constituents know their neighborhood the best.
- Do your best at work.
- Have empathy and be clear on what EPA can and cannot do.
- You have to level with people and have credibility and put people on equal footing.
- People take precedence over process.
- Let them know you care.
- Be proud of what we do and value EPA's role.
- Be part of their lives and get back with them.
- Understand where people are coming from.
- I've served on the Federal Women's Program and Women in Science and Engineering . I did a Toxicology series and people could get college credit.
- CAGS are important. EPA can't fix everything.
- We need to market our good community stories better and let the people know what we do.
- People need to stand up and do more. We have to become generalists.
- And ask how can we step up and do more?
- Even if you're busy- learn more skills and help out.
- With social media, whether good or bad, the information's out in seconds.
- Perhaps we can consider having open calls with the public and let them have time w/ experts to help build trust. Like townhalls or call in radio shows.
- Many people still don't have computers or internet access at home and some choose not to have it who are typically older.
- Build relationships.
- Don't recreate the wheel. Work together.
- Ex: One Westlake landfill, all multimedia are involved.